

Table V-7. Main Features of the Alternatives and Options for Calculating Ambient Background Concentrations.

Alternative	Description	Calculation Type	Combine with Option A	Adjusts for Uncertainty Related to:	Relative Difficulty	Potential for Overly Lenient Effluent Limitations	Potential for Overly Stringent Effluent
1	no action						
2	arithmetic mean	central value	yes		very low	high	medium
3	median	central value	yes	outliers	low	high	low
4	geometric mean	central value	yes	outliers and skewness	low	high	low
5	maximum	high value	yes		very low	low	high
6	99%	high value	yes	outliers	low	low	medium
7	99% with 99% confidence	high value	yes	outliers and sample variability and size	medium	low	low
8	95% with 95% confidence	high value	yes	outliers and sample variability and size	medium	low	low

